

[22 March, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

fixed the target for the production of oilseeds as well as the requirement of edible oils according to normative approach for the last 3 years is as under:
(in lakh tonnes)

Year	Target	Demand of edible oils
1997-98	255.00	65.20
1998-99	270.00	66.40
1999-2000	270.00	67.60

Development and Growth of Coconut Industry

2887. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what measures were adopted and recommended by the Coconut Development Board for development and growth of coconut industry in Andhra Pradesh and other parts of the country during the last five years;

(b) the results achieved therefrom;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Board has done nothing for the growth of industry except few seminars; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government to make the Board functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) For increasing production and productivity of coconuts, the Coconut Development Board is implementing programmes for area expansion under coconut, production and distribution of quality planting material through regional coconut nurseries and Demonstration-cum-Seed Production Farms established by the Board for hybrid seed production. The Board is also implementing programme on integrated farming in coconut holdings for productivity improvement through removal of disease affected trees, laying out demonstration plots in farmers field and assistance for production of organic manure. For promoting product diversification and by-product

utilization of coconuts, the Board implemented programmes for setting up of pilot testing plant for integrated coconut processing and developing technologies for value addition and by-product utilization. Assistance is also provided by the Board for coconut based industries, introduction of Agmark/ISI standards, fabrication and development of machineries for coconut processing, modernisation of coconut processing by introduction of improved dryers, techno economic surveys, consultancy services. For publicity and transfer of technology, the Board is bringing out publication in local languages, organising seminars, exhibitions, training programmes and workshops for the coconut growers and development officers of the States.

The Board made an assessment of the effect of cyclone in 1996 and 1999 in Andhra Pradesh and super cyclone in Orissa and submitted first hands reports to the Government. Appropriate plant protection measures were taken up after surveying and assessing the damage when incidence of mite was noticed in four southern States, for which funds were also released to Governments of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. During the last 5 years, an amount of Rs. 151.36 crores has been spent for the development of coconut in the country, of which Rs. 26.33 crores has been provided to the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The Board has helped in increasing the production of coconuts from 9700 million nuts in 1990-91 to 14925 million nuts in 1998-99 and the productivity of coconuts has increased from 6407 nuts per ha. to 7821 nuts per ha. in the same period. The Board has developed technologies for coconut milk, coconut cream, coconut water, coconut vinegar, Nata-de-coco, tender coconut water, spray dried coconut milk powder and transferred these technologies to 24 entrepreneurs. 66 cooperative institutions have been promoted by providing assistance of Rs. 59.5 lakhs for primary processing. 838 improved modern copra dryers were distributed in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Union Territories by providing an assistance of Rs. 50.4 lakhs and 40 units are being promoted for sale of tender nuts in Kerala.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise Sir.

Financial support to Orissa and West Bengal

2888. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the damage in financial terras in the Super cyclone in Orissa, the devastating floods in West Bengal as assessed by the respective State Governments and as concretized by the Central teams, separately;

(b) the money spent by the respective State Governments from their budgetary resources for making good the damage; and

(c) the financial support received by the respective State Governments in the face of these major natural calamities from all other sources other than its own including the Central Government and its organisations and the details thereof, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The State Governments of Orissa and West Bengal had intimated that they had suffered losses due to super-cyclone and the floods amounting to Rs. 6969.78 crores and Rs. 5660.00 crores respectively. Central Teams where sent to these States to assess the situation arising out of these calamities and they assessed the damage to be Rs. 905.85 crores and Rs. 292.24 crores respectively.

(b) The State Governments of Orissa and West Bengal had reported that Rs. 27.47 crores and Rs. 583.13 crores (approximately) were spent by them respectively for making good the damage.

(c) Detailed information is being gathered from the State Governments.